THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism have prioritised 36 projects amounting to Rs. 952.00 lakhs for the year 1999-2000 in consultation with the State Govt. for development of Tourism in Gujarat.

The State Government has proposed to Ministry of Tourism for declaration of following circuits and destinations in Gujarat:

(i) The Temple Circuit:

Ahmedabad-Rajkot-Dwarka-Porbandar-Somnath-Girnar-Palitana-Ahmedabad.

(ii) The Heritage Circuit:

Ahmedabad-Modhera-Patan-Ambaji-Mt. Abu

(iii) Destinations:

(a) Kutch District
(b) Dangs-Saputara Hill Station

The Ministry of Tourism has agreed in principle for introduction of new tourist circuits/destinations for Gujarat.

Development of Tourism in Assam

199. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:
DR. (SHRIMATI) JOYASREE GOSWAMI MAHANTA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tourism infrastructure and training projects sanctioned and implemented in Assam during Eighth Plan and, their stage of execution and outcome so far;

(b) the details of new projects for implementation in Ninth Plan, project-wise earmarked amount already allocated and utilised during first two years of Ninth Plan;

(c) the impact of those projects in increasing domestic and foreign tourists with data to substantiate thereof;

(d) the steps contemplated and incentives provided to attract private investment; and

(e) the project-wise details of response received from private parties so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (KUMARI UMA BHARATI): (a) The number of tourism infrastructure and training projects sanctioned and implemented in Assam during the eighth plan and, their stage of execution and out come so far:

8th Plan 1992—1997

Year	No. of Projects	Status
1992-93	7	3 Completed
1993-94	4	1 Completed
1994-95	1	Work in progress
1995-96	3	Work in progress
1996-97	5	Work in progress
TOTAL	20	

An amount of Rs. 3.56 crores has been released in 1998 for construction of building complex for the Institute of Hotel Management at Gawahati in Association with the State Govt.

(b) The details of new projects for implementation in Ninth plan, project-wise earmarked amount already allocated and utilised during the first two years of Ninth plan;

9th Plan 1997—2002

1997-98	11	Details are given in enclosed Statement-I (*See* below)
1998-99	10	Details are given in enclosed Statement-II (*See* below)

(c) The impact of those projects in increasing domestic and foreign tourists with data to substantiate thereof:

Tourist arrivals in Assam:

Year	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Domestic	19029	19902	17649	16026	14443	14238	13904(P)
Foreign	431	436	350	479	1000	723	754(P)

(d) and (e) The steps contemplated and incentives provided to attract private investment; and

The project-wise details of response received from private parties so far?

The tourism industry has been declared as a priority sector for foreign investment. The sector is eligible for foreign investment up to 51% of equity since July 1991. Higher equity participation in specific cases is also allowed on a case to case basis. NRI investment is allowed up to 100% Automatic approvals are given for foreign technology agreements and management contracts within specified parameters. The Government provides incentives for promotion of investments in tourism sector. The Construction of hotels is primarily a private sector activity.

Statement-I

Projects/Schemes sanctioned to the State of Assam for the year 1997-98

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Amt. Sanc.	Amt. Rel.
1.	Tourist resort cum water sports centre at Kaliabhomora (Kaziranga area)	36.00	11.00
2.	Upgradation of Tourist Lodge at Tejpur	15.00	5.00
3.	Yatri Niwas at Barpeta Pilgrim Centre	18.00	6.00
4.	Development of Tourist amenities at Picnic Spot at Chandrapur Guwahati	17.50	6.00
5.	Eco-Tourism Resort at Lumgsung (Tea Garden Resort)	40.00	12.00
6.	Yatri Niwas at Bhuban Hills, Silcher	18.00	5.40
7.	Tourist Lodge at Bokakhat	25.00	8.30
8.	Development of Tourist facilities at Rhino land at Kakhalabanda	20.00	6.00
9.	Tourist Lodge at Bhalukpong	15.73	8.00
10.	Yatri Niwas at Batadrava	40.00	10.00+2.00
11.	Tourist Lodge at Mangaldoi	36.65	3.00+8.00
	TOTAL	281.88	90.70

Statement-II

Funds released for projects of 1998-99

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1.	Development of Picnic Spot and Tourist Amenity Centre at Capavalla Fall, Nagaon	19.58	5.80
2.	Expansion of existing tourist facilities at Pabitara, Assam	44.19	13.25
3.	Development of Basistha Ashram, Guwahati, Assam	34.23	10.27
4.	Upgradation of Existing Tourist Lodge at Kaziranga, Assam	40.00	12.00
5.	Tourist Complex at Rajiv Gandhi Wild Life Park, Orang, Assam	35.00	13.00 adjusted
6.	Motel/Wayside Amenities at Chapar, Assam	34.15	10.25
7.	Motel/Wayside Amenities at Pancharatna, Assam	34.13	10.24
8.	Pilgrim Centre, Kamakhaya, Guwahati	25.75	8.00
9.	Children's outdoor Recreational facilities of Aranaya Lodge at Kaziranga, Assam	17.80	5.00
10.	Yatri Niwas at Kakopathar	30.00	9.00
	TOTAL	314.83	96.81